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26 November 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR: Assistant Deputy Director for Intelligence

SUBJECT: NIS General Survey Maps -- Response to Your
Comments and Questions

1. Distribution. We plan to contact heads of departments only. Although I doubt if there are any foreigners in that capacity, we will check to be sure. Also, we will not contact Canadian Geography Departments although many Canadians are members of the AAG.
2. Border Caveat. The disclaimer we use was carefully worded by the Department of State many years ago. It is the one they recommend to all Government agencies who produce maps on foreign areas. It especially applies to maps that may be distributed outside of classified publications. We use it routinely. 25X1A
3. Coordination. We have coordinated this plan with both [redacted] and Chief, BRS.
4. List of Countries in Letter. Under our proposed plan, we did not feel it was necessary. If they were to be sold, a list should be provided.
5. Sale vs. Gift. A precedent has been set with the free distribution of the two China atlases. We feel that, if we begin selling these materials, we tie our hands unnecessarily. We have no way to control requests for additional maps and each would require a response, a billing (frequently "nickels and dimes" amounts), and more of an obligation to maintain a supply. As long as they are "free", we can be more flexible in honoring the individual request without a charge, or without the problem of selling to one person and giving to another. We feel that the clerical and accounting obligation which would result from a charge system is unwarranted.
6. CIA-AAG Tie. Three points: First, we purposefully avoided personal names in the distribution of the atlases, and used the D/DGI by title only. Second, we feel this plan should be strictly an Agency offer, not associated with our professional society. Third, we doubt that the AAG would consider setting a precedent of this type which would open them to possible criticism and demands from other governmental and non-governmental units for the same privilege.

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7. Agency Attribution. This would be desirable. We are faced with a real problem, however, in accomplishing it. The 50 maps are printed on untrimmed sheets of paper with the map image falling in a different position for each map. To overprint an Agency attribution would require the preparation of 50 originals, 50 negatives, and 50 printing plates before reprinting some 15,000 sheets. We do not feel this is warranted. Fortunately, these maps would be known as CIA products in a map collection that serves a selected clientele in the Geography Departments.

8. Conclusion. We have struggled with this problem of making some of our maps available to our colleagues in the academic community for many years. Until the atlases were distributed, we maintained a negative posture. We still feel that this is a "sleeping giant" that should not be awakened. We do not have the manpower to operate a realistic system of non-governmental distribution. However, on rare occasions as is covered by this proposal, we feel a meaningful action should be taken. Upon careful reevaluation prompted by your questions, we recommend our original proposal for your approval. We appreciate your interest and support of this project.

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Deputy Director
Basic and Geographic Intelligence

Attachment:
As stated in Par. 8

Distribution:
O&I - Addressee
1 - ~~SD/BGI~~
2 - D/BGI
DD/BGI: [REDACTED] :jmc/2845(26 Nov 1969)

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